

REMARKS

In the last Office Action, claims 4-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Ohsawa (US2002/0051378). Claims 2-3 were allowed.

In order to expedite issuance of the patent, rejected claims 4-6 have been canceled without prejudice or admission and subject to applicants pursuing these claims in a continuing application. Claim 1 was previously canceled.

As a result of the amendments made herein, only allowed claims 2-3 remain pending in the application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the cancellation of rejected claims 4-6 does not raise a new issue requiring further search or consideration. Instead, the cancellation of claims 4-6 overcomes all grounds of rejection and places the application in allowable form with allowed claims 2-3.

In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration and entry of this amendment together with allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

ADAMS & WILKS
Attorneys for Applicants

By: 

Bruce L. Adams
Reg. No. 25,386

17 Battery Place
Suite 1231
New York, NY 10004
(212) 809-3700

MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Thomas Tolve

Name



Signature

February 9, 2007